

**IN THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application. The following amendments are without prejudice and do not constitute an admission regarding the patentability of the amended subject matter and should not be so construed.

Claims 1 – 74. (Canceled).

75. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition for oral administration in a tablet dosage form comprising:

- (a) about 10 to about 40 mg of a non-enteric coated omeprazole or a salt thereof substituted benzimidazole proton pump inhibitor;
- (b) about 56 to about 97 wt % of a buffer in an amount more than about 20 times the amount of the omeprazole on a weight to weight basis in the composition, the buffer comprising comprises sodium bicarbonate; and
- (c) an excipients consisting essentially of (i) at least one disintegrant; (ii) at least one lubricant; and (iii) at least one binder.

76. (Canceled).

77. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75[[76]], wherein the excipient is a disintegrant is present in an amount of about 1.3 to about 3.8 wt %.

Claims 78 – 83. (Canceled).

84. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75[[77]], wherein the omeprazole proton pump inhibitor is present in an amount of about 20 mg.

85. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75[[77]], wherein the omeprazole proton pump inhibitor is present in an amount of about 40 mg.

86. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75[[77]], wherein the buffering agent further comprises a buffering agent selected from the group consisting of potassium bicarbonate, magnesium hydroxide, magnesium lactate, magnesium gluconate, magnesium oxide, magnesium aluminate, magnesium carbonate, magnesium silicate, magnesium

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citrate, aluminum hydroxide, aluminum hydroxide/magnesium carbonate, aluminum hydroxide/sodium bicarbonate coprecipitate, aluminum glycinate, sodium citrate, calcium citrate, sodium tartrate, sodium acetate, sodium carbonate, sodium polyphosphate, potassium polyphosphate, sodium pyrophosphate, potassium pyrophosphate, disodium hydrogenphosphate, dipotassium hydrogenphosphate, trisodium phosphate, tripotassium phosphate, potassium carbonate, potassium metaphosphate, calcium acetate, calcium glycerophosphate, calcium hydroxide, calcium lactate, calcium carbonate, calcium gluconate, calcium bicarbonate, potassium phosphate, potassium citrate, or mixtures thereof.

87. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75[[77]], wherein the buffer further comprises magnesium hydroxide.

88. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 84[[77]], wherein the sodium bicarbonate is present in an amount of about 7 mEq to about 25 mEq.

89. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 77, wherein the omeprazole proton pump inhibitor is micronized.

90. (Canceled).

91. (Currently Amended) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 75[[77]] or claim 87, wherein the sodium bicarbonate is present in an amount of about approximately 1 mEq to about approximately 25 mEq.

92. (Canceled).